

Joppa/Joppatowne Community Council

Meeting Number 133 (6-13)

June 3, 2013

The Joppa/Joppatowne Community meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Meetings are held at the Harford County Sheriff's Office Southern Precinct, 1305 Pulaski Highway, Edgewood, MD 21040.

Meeting Number 133 was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairperson Paula Mullis, followed by a moment of silence for the Oklahoma hurricane victims and the Pledge of Allegiance. Local council members present were Paula Mullis, Gloria Moon, Doris G. Carey, Betty Byrne and Yvonne Baldwin. Members absent were Vince Rabenau, Ron Sollod, James B. Lyons III and Bob Frisch. Gloria Moon moved and Doris Carey seconded that the May minutes be approved. Chairperson Mullis welcomed special guest Janet Gleisner who did a presentation on a Walkability Program for Joppatowne along Joppa Farm Road. Paula offered a special acknowledgement of Captain Krass of the Sheriff's Office and Councilman Dion Guthrie. Also in attendance were Mike Kalinsky for Senator Nancy Jacobs and Mary Eilerman, Chief of Department of Public Safety at Harford Community College.

Sheriff's Office / Community Policing Report

Captain Krass passed out a report with statistics for Sector 10 prepared by the Crime Analysis Unit. This report will be shared each month. He stated that there are no big changes or trends concerning crimes in the area – a good thing. At present, the biggest thing happening in the Joppa/Joppatowne area is traffic stops. Deputies are in the area of the county doing what they are supposed to do. Accidents are down. There were sixteen last year and ten at present. No particular problems are happening at this time. Schools will be out soon and deputies will continue to be on alert. Captain Krass believes that deputies are doing a good job in the community. He was thanked by Paula Mullis for his participation.

Janet Gleisner – Presentation on Walkability Program for Joppa Farm Road

Janet Gleisner shared that in March of 2013 the county council adopted the first bicycle and walkability plan. There is interest in the Joppa Farm Road area. She talked briefly about sidewalk design,

crosswalks, and traffic calming and other tools needed to create a walkable community. She discussed a walking audit which gives community members and other participants a chance to walk through the area identifying issues and challenges that people may face when pedestrian facilities are not available.

There will be a multi discipline team to include a diverse group of people to share visions and realistic actions for improving the area that will be studied. Heather Strassberger discussed in a walkability audit where community members looked for challenges and opportunities in the area. She stated that in a walkability workshop videos will be shown with community leaders, and a multi-discipline team to work with the community, access the area. Joppa Farm Road can be a pilot for this region. People from public works, law enforcement and other areas will be involved in the project. Information will be sent to Paula Mullis so that it can be sent to community members who would like to be a part of the project. Paula thanked the presenters for their presentation.

County Council and Community Update from Councilman Dion Guthrie

Councilman Guthrie gave a brief update on the carnival and the upcoming parade. He said that he doesn't know the final results concerning how much money was made at the carnival. Bad weather might have hurt profits this year. Dion passed out a copy of "Harford's Southern County Magazine." He said the magazine is a good publication in which to run articles. The goal is to put out four issues per year. The publication manager and editorial contributors are looking to produce up to 20,000 copies when fully established. Dion said that Bill 13-22 is like a bad penny - it just won't go away. The administration is coming all out against his amendment to strike the language to deal with the Plecker property. He said that we cannot accept the language that is in this bill and needs the community to come to the County Council meeting to voice their opinions about the bill. He also stated that there is final amendment to the budget and \$250,000 was awarded to Joppatowne High School to fix the problem in the athletic room. Dion was thanked for the work that he is doing for the community.

Community Updates from Community Members and local Council Members

Frances Salbeck, the first chairman of the Joppa/Joppatowne Planning Council shared information about an abandoned house next door to her. She has called planning and zoning to no avail. Dion will see what he can do. Betty Byrne reminded everyone of the farm fair on July 25-28. Doris Carey shared that

ground was broken for the new Towson University building at Harford Community College on May 30, and ground breaking will take place for the new Nurses Allied Health Building in June.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Minutes by Doris Carey